

- WHEREAS, in just one day, across the U.S. and its territories, nearly 75,000 victims of domestic violence sought services from domestic violence programs and shelters. That same day, more than 9,000 requests for services, including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare and legal representation, could not be provided because programs lacked the resources to meet victims' needs;
- WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide-ranging, directly affecting individuals and society, here in this community, throughout the United States and the world, and
- WHEREAS, racism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism and discrimination based on physical ability, nationality or other factors help to perpetuate domestic violence and make finding safety even more difficult for some victims;
- WHEREAS, the need for safe house continues to be rated as survivors' most urgent need; and
- WHEREAS, the severity of domestic violence in a home is predictive of the severity of child abuse in the home, and child abuse is fifteen times more likely to occur in households where domestic violence is present;
- WHEREAS, Clark County joins with others across Washington and the nation in supporting victims of domestic violence, as well as local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide who are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and co-occurring child abuse and sending a clear message to abusers that domestic violence is not tolerated in Clark County;
- WHEREAS, domestic violence impacts millions of people each year, but it can be prevented. Preventing domestic violence requires the collective voice and power of individuals, families, institutions, and systems to transform our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Clark County Council does hereby proclaim October 2020 to be

## ~ Domestic Violence Awareness Month ~

in Clark County, Washington, and urges all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

Signed this 6th day of October 2020

CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL FOR CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Temple/Lentz, Bistrict 1

ulie Olson, District 2

ohn Blom, District 3

Gary Medvigy, District 4